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Request IR-1:

Reference: Figure 9 – Comparison of 2025 Actual Operating Storm Costs to Base Rates by Level

Question:

- (a) Please confirm the 2025 underspending on level 3 and level 4 storm costs was \$7.2 million. If not confirmed, please provide a detailed explanation.
- (b) Please provide a continuity schedule showing the balance and charges/credits to the Storm Cost Recovery Rider Customer Account for each of the past 3 actual years assuming the recovery rider was symmetrical (i.e. charges to customers in years when actual spending exceeded forecasts included in rates and refunds to customers in years when actual spending was lower than forecasts included in rates).

Response IR-1:

(a) Confirmed.

(b)

Level 3 & 4 Storm Costs	2023	2024	2025
Actual (\$ million)	32.1	3.7	3.2
Base Rates (\$ million)	10.2	10.4	10.4
Variance	21.9	(6.7)	(7.2)

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Symmetrical Storm Rider (does not include interest)					
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
2023 Level 3 & 4 Actual and Base Rates Variance	21.9				
Collection of 2023 Storm Rider			-21.9		
2024 Level 3 & 4 Actual and Base Rates Variance		-6.7			
Refund of 2024 Storm Rider				6.7	
2025 Level 3 & 4 Actual and Base Rates Variance			-7.2		
Refund of 2025 Storm rider					7.2
Ending Balance	21.9	15.2	-13.9	-7.2	0

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Request IR-2:

Reference: Section 6.0 CONTROL AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FOR EXTERNAL CONTRACTORS

Quote:

Members of NS Power's Continuous Improvement Team have identified the opportunity to, and begun to implement, standardized reporting and provision of mid-storm updates on contractor deployment during storm response.

Question:

(a) Please provide examples of the mid-storm update reporting NSP has implemented.

(b) Please discuss how NSP anticipates using this information to inform future operational and contracting standards.

Response IR-2:

(a) Example of Mid-Storm reporting provided to the EOC:

Region	External Day Buckets	Diggers	Veg	Day TCP	Night TCP
West	16	1	13	24	5
Metro	5	2	6	16	4
Northeast	13	2	10	23	4
Cape Breton	12	2	14	15	5
Total	46	7	43	78	18

More granular reporting is available to Regional Operations during the event.

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1 (b) This reporting, and similar tracking, will increase NS Power's ability to dispatch outage
2 incidents efficiently. At this time, NS Power does not anticipate using this reporting to
3 inform future operational and contracting standards.

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1 **Request IR-3:**

2
3 **Reference: Figure 10**

4
5 **The actual customer impact of the Level 3 event of December 19/20 was more than three**
6 **times the predicted customer impact.**

7
8 **(a) What was the reason for the difference between the actual customer impact of this**
9 **Level 3 event and the predicted customer impact?**

10
11 **(b) What lessons has Nova Scotia Power learned from the difference that was experienced**
12 **between the actual and predicted customer impacts of this event?**

13
14 **(c) What changes, if any, has Nova Scotia Power applied to the manner in which it**
15 **predicts customer impacts for Level 3 and Level 4 events as a result of the event of**
16 **December 19/20?**

17
18 **Response IR-3:**

19
20 **(a)** The main cause of the discrepancy between the predicted impacts prior to the event and the
21 actual customer impact is related to the significant winds experienced during the event well
22 above the forecast values in several key regions. For example, the expected peak gusts in
23 the Metro regions ahead of the event were forecast to be 100 km/h, but the maximum wind
24 gust recorded at the Halifax Airport on December 19, 2025 was 118 km/h. This would have
25 resulted in additional impacts to customers compared with the expected forecast impacts.

26
27 **(b-c)** Please refer to IG IR-09 for further discussion on how forecast uncertainty and post-event
28 review of forecasting is applied to future event decision-making as part of continuous
29 improvement. It should be noted that the general approach to pre-storm prediction does not
30 change depending on whether or not NS Power expects a level 1, 2, 3 or 4 event and is

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- 1 driven by the combination of data assessments based on forecast conditions as well as good
- 2 judgement by experienced NS Power subject matter experts to interpret the results.